Remarks

Applicant thanks the Examiner for his careful examination of this application. Based on the amendments now made, it is believed that all claims are in condition for allowance.

The Examiner is also thanked for the brief telephone interview of March 17, 1998, during which the form of the rewritten allowable claims was discussed. Minor changes in the introductory portions of the independent claims were also discussed, and the Examiner's suggestions has been followed. The changes add further clarity.

The rejected claims have been cancelled and the allowable claims have been rewritten in independent form, with the dependent claims renumbered to follow the rewritten independent claims. In addition, new dependent claims 34 and 35, each dependent on allowable independent claim 31, have been added. These claims include the limitations of dependent claims 18 and 19, but are added to a claim which the Examiner has indicated is allowable.

For the convenience of the Examiner in reviewing the claims now submitted, the manner of combining claims to form independent claims 27, 28 and 31 will not be explained. Claim 27 combines the limitations of claim 17 and claim 20 by inserting in what was claim 17 the limitations of claim 20 as part of the subparagraph beginning "a drive wheel." Claim 28 combines the limitations of claim 17 and claim 21 by inserting in what was claim 17 the limitations of claim 21 as part of the subparagraph beginning "a

mid-roller assembly." Likewise, claim 31 combines the limitations of claim 17 and claim 24 by inserting in what was claim 17 the limitations of claim 24 as part of the subparagraph beginning "a mid-roller assembly."

All claims are believed to be in condition for allowance and early favorable action is requested. The Examiner is invited to call the below-signed attorney if that would be helpful to resolve any issues which might remain.

Respectfully submitted,

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